Docket No. 740250-894 Serial No. 10/553 959 Page 1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Akihiko HIRATSUKA et al.) Group Art Unit: 3753 Serial No. 10/553,959) Examiner: John C. Fox Filed: October 19, 2005) Confirmation No. 9879) Date: November 9, 2009

FOR HEATER UNIT FOR INSTALLATION ON

VALVE

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is responsive to the Office Action dated August 12, 2009 in the above application. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims

The claims are amended as shown on the following pages under the heading "LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS". The list shows the status of all claims presently in the application including any current amendments. This list of claims is intended to supersede all prior listing(s) of the claims in the application. Any cancellation of claims is made without prejudice or disclaimer.